

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A magneto-resistance effect head is provided with a lower  
conductive layer which is provided with a recessed portion, and a  
5 vertical bias layer is provided in the recessed portion. A free  
layer is provided on the lower conductive layer. On the free  
layer, layered in the following order are the non-magnetic layer,  
the fixed layer, the fixing layer, and the upper layer so as not  
to be placed immediately above the vertical bias layer. The non-  
10 magnetic layer, the fixed layer, the fixing layer, and the upper  
layer are buried in an insulation layer. Furthermore, an upper  
conductive layer is provided on the upper layer and the  
insulation layer. In the direction of the magnetic field applied  
by the vertical bias layer, the free layer is made greater in  
15 length than the fixed layer and the free layer is disposed in  
proximity to the vertical bias layer with the distance between  
the fixed layer and the vertical bias layer remaining unchanged.